

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION ON AGING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2009

BARTLETT SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Craft at 9:35 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Callen, Cardella, Griffith, Thomas and Craft

Staff: Wand

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Griffith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Craft took a moment to acknowledge Commissioner Griffith for her hard work and dedication to the Commission on Aging over the past eight years. He indicated that she will be sorely missed on the Commission.

INSPIRATIONAL

Commissioner Griffith provided the inspiration:

"You can't help someone get up a hill without getting closer to the top yourself."

Norman Schwarzkopf

"Be glad of life, because it gives you the chance to love and to work and to play and to look up at the stars."

Henry Van Dyke

"Seek the wisdom of the ages, but look at the world through the eyes of a child."

Ron Wild

4. ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Callen moved, Commissioner Thomas seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of January 13, 2009. The motion carried unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Griffith moved, Commissioner Cardella seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of December 9, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

6. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

- Leilani Kimmel-Dagostino, Candidate for Commission on Aging
- Phil Ross, Torrance Public Library
- Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center

7. SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council

Commissioner Griffith reported on an extensive traffic study soon to be underway. She also announced that the contract for the operation of the Las Canchas Tennis Facility had recently been re-awarded.

She also discussed a recent incident at the Del Amo Fashion Center which resulted in multiple arrests.

B. Housing

Commissioner Griffith reported that an affordable housing project for seniors is being proposed for a site in Palos Verdes.

C. Health

Commissioner Griffith reported on legislation regarding emergency room billing for HMO patients. She also discussed a home testing device for patients using the drug "Coumadin."

The flu mist was also discussed, with it being noted that recent research indicates that the flu mist is not as effective as the flu vaccine.

D. Transportation

No report.

E. Cable

Commissioner Callen reported on currently airing segments. He also indicated that he is working on the 25th installment of his "Portrait of a Senior" series which will highlight the life of Peter O'Brien.

F. Focal Point Program

Commissioner Cardella announced that she will report on December statistics along with January statistics at the next meeting.

Mrs. Wand reported that Focal Point Manager Bea Virobik had recently been hospitalized and is currently recovering at home. All Commissioners expressed their good wishes for Mrs. Virobik's speedy recovery.

Guest Vickie Hershberger announced Caregiver support groups sponsored by Torrance Memorial Medical Center.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

Commissioner Cardella reported on the prevalence of elder abuse and fraud. Several current scams were discussed.

8. ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Wand indicated that a luncheon will be held on Tuesday, February 10 at 11:30 a.m. at the South Bay Grill to honor outgoing Commissioner Griffith for her outstanding service.

Commissioner Callen and Commissioner Cardella indicated that they have heard some concerns from seniors about overcrowding in exercise programs sponsored through the Torrance Adult School. There was a discussion about the popularity of the many fitness programs available in the community.

Guest Phil Ross indicated that the newly renovated main floor of the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library is now open. A grand re-opening will be scheduled in early February. He also updated the Commission on branch library renovations and upcoming special events and programs for Baby Boomers.

Guest Vickie Hershberger distributed copies of the current issue of "Health Connections" and announced an upcoming 12 week cardiovascular health series as well as the 2nd Annual Women's Heart Health Conference scheduled for February 7, 2009.

12. ADJOURNMENT TO NEXT MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. to the next meeting of Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the Holster Conference at Bartlett Center.

Approved as Submitted February 10, 2009 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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